

**DRAFT**

**Fauquier County Board of Supervisors  
Public Safety Committee  
Meeting of August 18, 2004**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

Public Safety Committee Chairman, Chester Stribling, called the meeting to order at 5:11 pm

**2. Introduction of Participants**

Present were:

- Mr. Ray Graham, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- Mr. Chester Stribling, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- The Honorable Jonathan S. Lynn, Commonwealth's Attorney
- Sheriff Charlie Ray Fox, Jr., Fauquier County Sheriff
- Mr. G. Robert Lee, County Administrator
- Mr. Anthony Hooper, Deputy County Administrator
- Mr. Bill Dugan, WFJCC
- Mr. Tim McMenamin, Director, WFJCC
- Ms. Janice Bourne, Director of Finance
- Mr. Tom Marable, President, Fauquier Fire and Rescue Association
- Darren Stevens, Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services
- Mr. Billy Jenkins, Fauquier County Operations Dept.
- Dr. Bill Barker, Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services
- Sgt. Walter Putnam, Warrenton Police Department
- Captain Allen Cubbage, Warrenton Police Department
- Mr. Tom Pavelko, Staff to the Public Safety Committee

\*Ms. Alexandra Bogedahovic of the Fauquier Times Democrat joined the Public Safety Committee as an observer.

**3. Approval of the Minutes and Agenda**

Mr. Stribling called for approval of the current agenda and the minutes of the July 21, 2004 meeting. Seconded: Mr. Graham. Adopted.

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**4. Fire Company Financial Audits**

Janice Bourne, Finance Director, discussed the hiring of an independent auditor to audit all of the county fire companies. She advised that such an audit would result in recommendations to help streamline the FRA among other positive outcomes. General discussion ensued. Tom Marable confirmed that the FRA is in favor of such a request. Therefore, Mr. Lee will place this item on the next Finance Committee agenda and request monies from the general fund. The contract will then be subject to the bidding process.

**5. FRA Funding Needs**

On behalf of Chief Myer, Darren Stevens informed the committee that all Fire Chiefs have unanimously agreed to complete the 12 hour staffing schedule, if additional funding is provided mid year FY05. This would require an additional six personnel and would cost approximately \$160,000 effective January 1, 2005. Mr. Graham stressed that the FRA must develop priorities for the new funding before the Board of Supervisors can act on this issue. Tom Marable advised that an FRA work session will be held on September 12 to better determine the needs of the new funding.

**6. 800 MHz Update**

Tony Hooper updated the committee on the progress of the 800 MHz radio system. Preliminary tests completed by Motorola, determined some problem areas that still exist and they are working to resolve those issues. Training on the new system is ongoing. There will be a thirty day "burn in" period to commence in the next few weeks in which the system will be functional but not complete. This will help resolve any issues with equipment that exist prior to full implementation. The FCC has recently approved paging frequencies for the new system. An additional \$35,000 is needed for the purchase of the remaining pagers. In an effort to expedite the purchase, it was decided to request the funds from the Finance Committee and have the FRA reimburse the County for half of the money.

**7. Traffic Light-Warrenton Fire Department**

Billy Jenkins revisited the issue of the additional traffic light in front of the Warrenton Fire Department. Observations of recent traffic patterns indicate the light maybe programmed incorrectly. Mr. Jenkins offered alternative programming solutions so that traffic would run more smoothly and cars would not get caught in between the two lights. The Town of Warrenton has already investigated the issue and determined that it was not a problem. However, Sgt. Putnam of the Warrenton Town Police agreed to ask Town officials to take a second look.

**8. Early Warning Notification System**

Sgt. Walter Putnam inquired if Fauquier County would be interested the use of an Early Warning Notification System to be used in the event of disasters, severe weather, road closings and other events that require the immediate attention of citizens. He advised that Homeland Security Funds could be used to obtain the necessary equipment. Mr. Graham requested more research be completed so the Board of Supervisors could be updated on the specifics of this project.

**9. Roundtable**

Sheriff Fox informed the committee that he has filled one of his animal control positions. He said that adjustments in shift schedules are being made to allow for more overlap in shifts. Mr. Graham reminded everyone that school is starting next week and to be cautious when driving.

**10. Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Mr. Stribling called for adjournment at 6:08 pm. Generally concurred.

*Given under my hand this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August 2004*

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*Thomas S. Pavelko, Lead Staff*  
*Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee*

